

COVID-19: Retail Shops Webinar

Question and Answer Session

Is it a legal requirement for staff to wear a face covering?

It is no longer a legal requirement for staff to wear face-coverings however this is still strongly encouraged. Please note, if your risk assessment states that PPE is required then this should still be accommodated.

Do I need to continue to restrict capacity to the store?

We would strongly advise that you take a gradual and staged approach to increased capacity. You can do this by having staff on the front door limiting access.

Can I remove my one-way system and floor markings?

We would strongly advise continuing to use a one-way system and floor markings as they assist with people keeping a safe distance from each other.

Do I need to close if I have an outbreak within my workforce?

A joint decision whether a premise needs to be closed will be made at a multi-agency management meeting including officers from the council and Public Health. Therefore, it remains vital that premises have adequate Covid-19 measures in place to reduce workplace exposure between staff.

Environmental Health will look at a premises Covid-19 risk assessment in the result in an outbreak to ensure it is sufficient and can successfully mitigate transmission of the virus.

Will the local authority be taking action, in what scenario?

We will be taking a light touch approach upon enforcement and we will be offering support and guidance to premises that require help. The council have powers to issue a fixed penalty notice if employers are found to be circumventing self-isolation guidance, and to close premises where there is an imminent risk to health.

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How often should I be cleaning?

We would advise all touch points to be cleaned frequently i.e. rotational cleaning every couple hours during peak trading periods. Should an outbreak occur, deep cleaning of the premises would be required.

I've heard that you can return to work if self-isolating with daily testing, is this correct?

There is a pilot study currently being trialled by Greene King and selected supermarkets. If you are not within this study, you are not currently exempt from self-isolation guidance.

If a member of staff has been pinged by the NHS app, how long do they need to stay home for?

The NHS app will advise your staff member of their exposure date and how long they are required to self-isolate for.